

AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.  
Legal Department, DL429  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P. O. Box 7599  
Loveland, Colorado 80537-0599

PATENT APPLICATION  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10010872-2

IN THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Frank S. Geefay, et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Lee, Hsien Ming

Filing Date:

Group Art Unit: 2823

Title: Sloped Via Contacts

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Page 1, line 1, insert the following new paragraph:

- ( ) This is a Continuation of copending application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed on \_\_\_\_\_, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.
- (X) This is a Divisional of copending application Serial No. **10/029,193**, filed on **12/20/2001**, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

In the Claims:

(X) Cancel the following claims 12-22 of the prior application. (At least one original claim must be retained for filing purposes).

"Express Mail" label no. EK176606889US

Date of Deposit 4-15-04

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By Ann Marie Radcliffe  
Typed Name: Ann Marie Radcliffe

Respectfully submitted,  
Frank S. Geefay, et al.

By Judy Liao Shie  
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. **50,305**

Date: 4/15/04

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